

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/064,613
Docket NO.: 8860-US-PA

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REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 12 and allowed claims 2, 3, 8, 10 and 13. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Morita et al (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0135595, "Morita" hereinafter). Applicants have canceled claim 1. After entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2-4, 6-10 and 12-13 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Office Action Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Morita. Claim 1 is canceled and the rejection addressed to it is moot. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections addressed to claims 4, 6, 7, 9 and 12 for at least the reasons set forth below.

Morita disclosed a display device and a display method, which relates to a "sub-field method" for displaying. The disclosed display device includes a gray level conversion/diffusion circuit diffuses the difference between a non-display gray level and a display gray level by error diffusion processing when a video signal is a video signal of the non-display gray level, a video signal-sub-field corresponder converts a video signal of one field after diffusion to a video signal every sub-field, and a sub-field processor, a scanning and sustain driving circuits and a data driving circuit make a discharge cell of a plasma display panel emit light or emit no light every sub-field in response to the video

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signal every sub-field. (Abstract).

As disclosed in paragraph [0169] of Morita, "the gray level conversion/diffusion circuit 2 converts the non-display gray level to the display gray level close to the non-display gray level among display gray levels, and **diffuses the difference between the non-display gray level and the display gray level to the pixels around the pixel** having the non-display gray level. Therefore, the difference between the non-display gray level and the display gray level can be spatially diffused, and the non-display gray level can be equivalently displayed with the display gray level. As shown in FIG.3 and paragraph [0167] of Morita, the level difference e' between the original gray level of the image data VD and the gray level after conversion by the gray level conversion table 21 **is diffused from a processed pixel (pixel of e') to peripheral pixels (pixels of K1 to K4).**

Morita just disclosed how the level difference e' between the original gray level of the image data VD and the gray level after conversion by the gray level conversion table 21 **is diffused from a processed pixel (pixel of e') to peripheral pixels (pixels of K1 to K4),** shown in the front Page of the Morita reference.

The Office action asserted that disclosures from paragraph [0198] to paragraph [0203] and FIG.11 of Morita anticipated the claimed subject matters of claim 4. Applicants do not agree and respectfully traverse the rejections. In the gray level conversion/diffusion circuit 2b of FIG.11 of Morita, **"a display gray level displayable by combination of a plurality of sub-fields and a dither gray level"** (Para. [0198]). The method is totally different from that as claimed in claims 4 and 9.

As defined in claim 4, the gray scale input value is in a first range. The gray scale

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data converted from the gray scale input value is greater than the gray scale input value and in a second range. The gray scale data displayed as a brightness that is within a third range and the number of integers in the third range is less than the number of integers in the second range and is determined by an error diffusion method using an error value".

Morita at least does not disclose, teach, or suggest the features set forth above.

As defined in claim 9, the gray scale input value has a one-to-one corresponding relationship to the gray scale data, moreover if a range that gray scale data appears in comprises N integers and a brightness range to be adjusted comprises M integers, then $N > M$. Morita at least does not disclose, teach, or suggest the features set forth above.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 4 and 9 patently define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 6, 7 and 12 patently define over the prior art as well.

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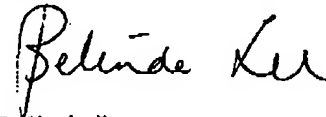
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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-13 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,



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